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Beulah Pre-School
Hollinwood Youth Centre
Withins Road
Oldham
Lancashire
OL8 3QD

Our Reference EY265718

Dear Beulah Pre-School Committee

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Michael, David Charnley, monitored your provision on 17/07/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 14/02/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. If you were set actions at the inspection, or as a result of our subsequent monitoring or investigations, these are included at the end of this letter.

The welfare requirements notice required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements: Managing behaviour. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 7 March 2014. At previous monitoring visits completed on 3 April 2014 and 6 June 2014 we found that you had taken prompt and effective action and were complying with the requirements of this notice.

During the monitoring visit of 3 April 2014 the inspector discussed with you the steps you had taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector found that you had taken prompt and effective action to comply with the regulations relating to the following requirements: Staff to child ratios, Child protection, Key person and Equal opportunities. The inspector found however that you had not met the requirement raised under learning and development relating specifically to the tracking of children's learning and development. At the previous monitoring visit on 6 June 2014 the inspector found that there were still inconsistencies in terms of staff tracking children's progress and identifying next steps in their learning.

During the monitoring visit of 17 July 2014 the inspector discussed with you and your staff the steps you had taken to address the action raised in the notice to improve

relating to learning and development. The inspector examined the information contained within a random selection of children's files with a particular focus on recorded observations of children's progress, attainment and identified next steps in learning. The inspector also observed activities taking place in the pre school, teaching practice and level of interest and engagement sustained by the children during the session.

The inspector found that you have made improvement regarding the tracking of children's progress in that staff and respective key workers have completed up to date observations and assessments of all children including new starters. Staff demonstrated a sufficient knowledge and understanding of their key worker role and responsibility and the importance of forming an ongoing assessment of what children can or cannot do in line with prime and specific areas of learning. The inspector found that staff are using their observations of children in play to help them target next steps in consultation with parents. From viewing individual files the inspector found that next steps in learning have been identified for all children which means that staff are more focussed when planning activities and able to provide better targeted support to individual children to aid their progress and development. The inspector emphasised the need for a rigorous management oversight in order to promote sustained improvement in this area of practice.

The inspector found sustained improvement regarding children's behaviour during the monitoring visit. Your staff for example are positive role models for the children who have formed good attachments to them. At various points during the visit they reinforced to them the importance of sharing, working cooperatively and being kind towards one another in their play. Children are familiar with the structure of the sessions conforming to the boundaries expected for example during circle time and snack time. The 'star of the week' strategy in place is a good means of promoting positive behaviour and boosting self esteem along with staff giving praise and encouragement for their individual achievements.

Children self chose resources to support their play that were of sufficient range and challenge. They worked independently and in small groups with confidence. An impromptu wall painting activity outdoor, for example proved to be a highly stimulating and interesting activity that most children engaged in. They exercised a good level of concentration and skill in dipping their paint brush into the container of water and painting individual bricks one by one. There was some use of interactive teaching with children generally attentive and participating in focussed activities, such as during sand play where they experimented with various implements including bucket, spade and funnels. A better use of questioning by the practitioner, by for example bringing in a wider range of vocabulary would have challenged children's thinking more and helped them remain on task. You informed the inspector that the practitioner would benefit from further training to enhance her skill base.

This shows a good commitment to improving teaching practice to enhance children's learning.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that the setting has taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

Next steps

The next step will be a full inspection.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your setting. If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Nick Hudson
National Director, Early Education

Actions

| Action | Due date | Closed date |
|--|------------|-------------|
| ensure that for each child, assessment and tracking are consistently used to identify the next steps in their learning and to understand their level of achievement, interests and learning style, to ensure that learning experiences meet their individual needs and offer challenging learning opportunities so they make good progress | 08/04/2014 | 23/07/2014 |